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FEDERAL ON-SCENE COORDINATOR'S REPORT OUTLINE
FOR *J.S*
HARRISON SHEET STEEL
CHICAGO, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
TDD: T05-9502-013
PAN: EIL0859FAA

June 22, 1995

Prepared by: *Bruce Brooks for M.M.* Date: *6/22/95*
M. Mangini, TAT Project Manager

Reviewed by: *May J. Ripp* Date: *6/22/95*
M.J. Ripp, TAT QA Reports Manager

Approved by: *[Signature]* Date: *6/22/95*
T. Kouris, TAT Leader



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International Specialists in the Environment

June 23, 1993

Ms. Gail Nabasny
TAT Deputy Project Officer
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604

RE: Harrison Sheet Steel
Chicago, Cook County, Illinois
TDD: T05-9502-013
PAN: EIL0859FAA

Ms. Nabasny:

On February 24, 1995, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) issued Technical Direction Document (TDD) T05-9502-013 tasking the Ecology and Environment, Inc. (E & E), Technical Assistance Team (TAT) to assist with removal actions at the Harrison Sheet Steel (Harrison) site in Chicago, Illinois. TAT was tasked to prepare a safety plan, provide air monitoring, collect multimedia samples, provide hazardous categorization of on-site materials, complete Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) paperwork, and provide photo- and videodocumentation of the site.

The Harrison site is an abandoned office furniture manufacturing facility. After the Harrison Sheet Steel Company vacated the building, it fell into disrepair and was accessible to the public. Fly-ash dumping apparently occurred at the site, and numerous fires burned in the building, resulting in the collapse of roofs, and the compromise of the building's integrity. The Harrison site is bordered on the east, west, and north by residential buildings and operating businesses, and on the south by Fifth Avenue and the Illinois Central Railroad.

The U.S. EPA On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Pete Guria received emergency funds to secure this site on February 21, 1995. Removal operations began on February 23, 1995, and were completed on June 13, 1995. This letter accompanies an outline of the Federal OSC's Report which was requested by the OSC as the final report for the Harrison site.

Sincerely,

Bugio Brooks
for Mike Mangini

Mike Mangini
TAT Project Manager

Th Kouris

Thomas Kouris
TAT Leader

Attachment A: Federal Report Outline

cc: Pete Guria, U.S. EPA OSC
TDD Site File

Attachment A

Federal OSC Report Outline

Harrison Sheet Steel Site

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1. SUMMARY OF EVENTS

1.1 SITE CONDITIONS AND BACKGROUND

1.1.1 Location

The site is located at 4718 W. 5th Avenue, Chicago, Cook County, Illinois (latitude 41°52'09.3"N, 87°44'30.4"W). The site is located in a light industrial/residential, low-income/high-crime neighborhood.

1.1.2 Hazardous Substances

Fly-ash has apparently been dumped inside the building. The majority of hazardous waste was found in deteriorating drums in the two easternmost rooms of the building.

1.1.3 Facility

The Harrison site is approximately 1 acre in size. A brick building (375 feet x 110 feet) with seven rooms is in a state of extreme disrepair following numerous fires.

1.2 SITE HISTORY

This site was discovered by United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Pete Guria during a removal at the David Chemical site at 4650 W. 5th Avenue, located one-half block from the Harrison site. No records of prior environmental audits/assessments are on record. Viable Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs) have not been identified.

1.3 THREAT TO PUBLIC HEALTH AND/OR THE ENVIRONMENT

- As outlined in 40 CFR 300.415(b) (2) of the National Contingency Plan (NCP), conditions at the Harrison site are such that actual or potential exposure to nearby human populations, animals, or the food chain from hazardous substances or pollutants or contaminants exists. The analytical results from samples collected during the site assessment indicated TCLP lead from 5.0 to 84.5 parts per million (ppm), and total chrome from 482 to 8,600 ppm. Flammable liquids were found on site. During the removal, over 600 pounds (lbs.) of elemental mercury-impacted solids were encountered, including mercury spilled on the floor.
- As outlined in 40 CFR 300.415 (b)(2)(b) of the NCP, conditions at the Harrison site are such that hazardous substances or pollutants may pose a threat of release. Due to exposure to the elements, drums and smaller containers were in severe states of deterioration. No drums or containers were deemed satisfactory for off-site shipment during the removal. Many drums disintegrated during staging activities.
- As outlined in 40 CFR 300.415 (b)(2)(c) of the NCP, conditions at the Harrison site are such that weather conditions may cause pollutants or contaminants to migrate. During periods of precipitation, large quantities of water collect in the building. The water accumulation accelerates the deterioration of drums and could provide a pathway for contaminants to migrate through floor drains and cracks in the concrete.
- According to 40 CFR 300.415 (b)(2)(d) of the NCP, conditions at the Harrison site are such that a threat of fire or explosion exists. The Chicago Fire Department (CFD) has responded to seven fires at this facility in the last two years. A total of 4,965 gallons of flammable/combustible liquids and solids were shipped from the site during the removal.

- According to 40 CFR 300.415 (b)(2)(e) of the NCP, conditions at the Harrison site are such that appropriate Federal or State response mechanisms are unavailable to respond to the release. Neither the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) nor the City of Chicago had the necessary resources or cleanup contractor mechanisms in place to perform this time-critical removal.

1.3.1 Natural Resource Damage

No formal study of natural resources damage at the site was completed. The site is located in an urban area.

1.4 ATTEMPTS TO OBTAIN A RESPONSE BY POTENTIALLY RESPONSIBLE PARTIES

At the time of the completion of the removal, no viable PRPs were identified.

1.5 CHRONOLOGICAL NARRATIVE OF RESPONSE ACTIONS TAKEN

2/21/95	The OSC received \$50,000 emergency funding to initiate site stabilization and security measures at this time-critical removal site.
2/23/95	Subcontractor arrived on site to board up windows of building.
2/24/95	Fencing subcontractor contract awarded.
2/27/95	Fencing subcontractor began placing fence at points-of-entry around the building.
3/2/95	All fencing work was completed and the site is secured.
3/6- 3/27/95	The Emergency Response Cleanup Support (ERCS) Response Manager (RM), foreman, and one technician conducted preplanning activities to prepare for full mobilization. Contracting work for electrical, plumbing, and heavy equipment needs was completed. Two 30-cubic-yard rolloff boxes of

trash were shipped off site.

3/15- Electrical contractor installed temporary
3/31/95 electrical service to rooms 1, 2, and 5 of the building.

4/4/95 Plumbers connected water to the transition zone.

4/5/95 All preliminary set up of transition zone and drum staging area was completed. Crew began reconnaissance and staging of drums. Reconnaissance of rooms 2, 3, 4, and 5 was completed. A structural engineer from ESE Inc., inspected the building and documented areas that were not stable. The engineer suggested which steel supports may be safely removed, and also presented options for the widening of doorways to facilitate material transportation.

4/6- The drum staging continues. During this period,
4/21/95 297 drums were staged by the ERCS crew.

4/13- Drums were sampled by TAT with assistance from
4/21/95 ERCS. On April 21, 1995, sampling activities were interrupted due to the ERCS crew cutting steel in room 6, thereby creating a hazardous situation.

4/6- ERCS crew cut steel in room 6. Between
4/27/95 April 21 and 27, 1995, ERCS crew worked on structural members. This work created a hazard in room 6 and drum staging was halted.

4/16/95 TAT began hazcatting drum samples.

4/27/95 TAT prepared and sent a composite sample of Group M solids for analysis.

4/27- After a delay from metal cutting, ERCS completed
5/2/95 drum staging, and TAT completed drum sampling and hazcatting.

4/26- The repackaging/compositing began with 5-gallon
5/9/95 buckets of paint/paint solids.

5/1/95 Power screen arrived on site. The screen was used to process debris from room 6. Screening took place every working day without interruption until the ERCS crew completed screening operations on June 16, 1995.

5/3/95 Composite samples of Groups H, I, and J were sent for analysis.

5/9-5/11/95 The drums of flammable/combustible solids and liquids were composited and repackaged.

5/10/95 The composite samples of screened fines and screened debris were sent for analysis. Waste profiling began with Group M solids.

5/11/95 The bulking of the Group M solids into 20-cubic yard rollofs began.

5/16/95 Disposal acceptance was granted for the Group M wastestream. The screening of room 6 debris was completed.

5/18/95 Waste disposal began as Group M rollofs were shipped off site.

5/22-5/24/95 A total of 155 cubic yards of nonhazardous fine-screened material and 266 cubic yards of nonhazardous-screened debris were sent off site.

5/30/95 A total of 3,795 gallons of drummed flammable solids were shipped off site.

6/1/95 A total of 990 gallons of drummed flammable liquids were shipped off site.

6/2/95 A decontamination water profile was sent to Ecological Systems. Mercury-contaminated solids were shipped off site.

6/5-6/12/95 A total of 71 cubic yards of crushed drums and contaminated metal were shipped off site.

6/8-6/9/95 A total of 7,830 gallons of decontamination water was shipped from the site.

6/9/95 The shipment of Group M solids was completed. A total of 124 cubic yards was shipped off site.

6/12/95 All remaining wastes were shipped off site.

6/8-6/13/95 Site demobilization, including office and decontamination trailers, was completed. On June 13, 1995, the welding subcontractor welded all fences shut on building in order to prevent trespassing.

1.6 COMMUNITY RELATIONS

A standard community relations plan was developed for this site. The OSC routinely corresponded with city and state officials. The local community did not display any interest in the site.

1.7 COST SUMMARY

The following costs are totals through June 8, 1995.

On June 7, 1995, \$ 800,000.00 was deobligated from the ERCS delivery order.

Group	Budgeted	Total-to-Date	Remaining
ERCS	\$ 1,375,000.00	\$ 502,245.50	\$ 872,754.50
TAT	\$ 244,000.00	\$ 60,406.85	\$ 183,593.15
U.S. EPA (direct)	\$ 50,340.00	\$ 17,756.70	\$ 32,583.30
U.S. EPA (indirect)	\$ 93,025.00	\$ 35,310.48	\$ 57,714.52
Totals	\$ 1,762,365.00	\$ 615,719.53	\$ 1,146,645.47

2. EFFECTIVENESS OF REMOVAL ACTIONS

2.1 POTENTIALLY RESPONSIBLE PARTIES

No removal activities were conducted by the PRPs.

2.2 STATE AND LOCAL AGENCIES

No removal activities were conducted by state or local agencies; however, U.S. EPA is attempting to persuade the City of Chicago to demolish the building at this site.

2.3 FEDERAL AGENCIES AND SPECIAL TEAMS

2.4 CONTRACTORS

3. DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED

During the month of March 1995, after the majority of emergency funds had been expended, and before full funding was in place, very little waste-focused activity occurred. However, this time was used to plan activities that would take place on site. Once full funding was granted, this project ran smoothly with little or no delays due to contracting, disposal acceptance, or shipping coordination. On at least three occasions the site was illegally entered by trespassers. On one occasion vandalism occurred, and on two occasions materials were stolen from the site. This occurred despite warning signs, the existence of a chain-link fence with barbed wire, and a 24-hour armed security patrol. After the second incident was discovered, patrol logs were requested from the security company and patrolling frequency was found to be deficient. It is suspected that, on occasion, guards may not have been on site.

4. CONCLLUSIONS

The removal of hazardous waste materials effectively mitigated threats to human health and the environment posed by hazardous materials at the site.

Emergency and Enforcement Response Branch
Office of Superfund, U.S. EPA, Region V

OSC REPORT STANDARD APPENDICES LIST *

Site Name: Harrison Sheet Steel

Site ID#: OP

Delivery Order #: 5001-05-367

1.	<u>OPERATIONAL FILES</u>	<u>ID#</u>
	Action Memos/Additional Funding Requests/Time	
	Exemptions	1-A
	POLREPS	1-B
	Site Entry/Exit Log	1-C
	Hot Zone Entry/Exit Log	1-D
	Site Safety Plan	1-E
	Site Activity Log	1-F
	Daily Work Orders	1-G
	Emergency Contingency Plan	1-H
	General Correspondence	1-I
	Administrative Order	1-J
	Community Relations Plan	1-K
	General Notice Letters/104(e) Information Requests . . .	1-L
	Equipment Entry/Exit Logs	1-M
2.	<u>FINANCIAL FILES</u>	<u>ID#</u>
	Delivery Orders/Procurement Requests/Modifications to	
	Contract (ERCS)	2-A
	Technical Direction Documents/Modifications	2-B
	Daily Cost Reporting/U.S. EPA Form 1900-55s	2-C
	Await Bill Tracking Log	2-D
	Incident Obligation Log (IOL)	2-E
	Contractor Invoices	2-F
	ERCS/1900-55s	2-G
	Subcontractor Bids/Specs	2-H

OSC REPORT STANDARD APPENDICES LIST (con't)*

3.	<u>Technical Files</u>	<u>ID#</u>
	Disposal Waste Stream Information	3-A.1
	Disposal Waste Stream Analytical Results	3-A.2
	Disposal Waste Profile Forms	3-B
	Manifests/Waste Summary Table	3-C
	Disposal Transportation Log	3-D
	Technical Assistance Team Site Assessment	3-E
	Chain of Custody Forms	3-F
	Site Maps	3-G
	Drum Logs	3-H
	Compatibility Results	3-J
	Site Contacts/Business Cards	3-K
	Background Information	3-G
	Miscellaneous	3-L

* Portions of these OSC Report Appendices may contain confidential business information or enforcement-sensitive information and must be reviewed by the Office of Regional Counsel prior to release to the public.

* Note that certain files for this site are maintained elsewhere by EERB; these appendices are those files maintained by the OSC during the removal action.